GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1058
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
PERMANENT SEAT IN UNSC
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Maheshwari Smt. Kiran;Shivanna Shri M;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that it is unlikely that India may get permanent seat with VETO rights in the Security Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of nations who have pledged their support for India for a permanent seat in the Security Council;

(d) the number of countries whose support is needed for India to obtain permanent membership in the Security Council of UN; and

(e) the details of impediments in the way of getting permanent seat for India in the Security Council?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a)-(e) The issue of the reform and restructuring of the UN Security Council has been under discussion at the United Nations for several years. There are several complex issues involved in the question of restructuring the UN Security Council as well as the question concerning new permanent members. In view of the complexities and the diverse perceptions on the specifics of such reforms among member States, a decision on this issue has not been reached as yet.

There is a steady accretion of support for India`s candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. Several countries - permanent members as well as others - have expressed support for India`s candidature either in the UN or in the context of bilateral exchanges. Such support is expressed in different forums and forms and it is, therefore, difficult to give a definitive number on countries which have specifically supported India.

Any expansion of the UN Security Council would require support of two-thirds of the members of the UN including that of all permanent members of the UN Security Council.